

John

Boston, June 20, 1864

Dear Johnson:

862

Our Executive Committee meeting has been held, and, knowing you will be anxious to hear what was "the conclusion of the ^{whole} matter", I hasten to give you the desired information.

All the members of the Committee were present, except Mr. Gay. Phillips said he had nothing to do in calling it; but charged the Standard with being a partisan Lincoln sheet, relying for evidence upon your animadversions upon the Cleveland Convention in last week's paper. He declared that if such

were to be the character of the paper, he should drop it and withdraw from the Society. He did not like all of Quincy's leaders, especially the one of last week, but, on the whole, thought he had left a pretty even balance. He claimed that, on three several occasions, the Am. A. S. Society had by itself, and through its auxiliaries, pronounced against the Administration and Mr. Lincoln as unworthy of confidence or support, anti-slavery wise; and, therefore, the Standard should be governed by its decisions. He was not willing to give one farthing to have the paper

supported, if favoring the re-election of Mr. Lincoln; but he shone out with a long little longer to see what its tone might be - re., re. This complaint was chiefly against yourself. He was very indignant that you allowed anything to prevent the appearance of the Fremont Cleveland case in the Standard as soon as it was issued.

Though Mr. Borditch and Mr. Whipple are anti-Lincoln, no one of the Committee was disposed to take Mr. Pi's side against the Standard, but the verdict was that it had been conducted with remarkable fairness and impartiality. No wish was

expressed to give Mr. Quincy
or yourself any instruction or
advice as to the future, beyond
advising great care not to even
seem to give an undue
partiality to Lincoln's nomina-
tion, while noting impartially
the signs of the times as to
both nominations in testing
the loyal anti-slavery sentiment
of the country. They expressed
great confidence in your
wisdom and discretion
not needlessly to give offence,
while they agreed in the
necessity and duty of
your faithfully presenting
facts as they may arise, ^{and} cut
where they may.

U.S. #26

I received a telegram
from you while we were
together, and read it to the
Committee; but they deemed

it unnecessary for you to come
to Boston at present.

* I fear P. has made up his
mind to leave us; but time
must determine. He is
evidently in a heated state.

Yours, to the end.

W. L. G.

VC #86